Applicant: Yuan-Ping Pang Attorney's Docket No.: 07039-161002 / MMV-99-020

Serial No.: 10/723,594

Filed: November 26, 2003

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## Amendments to the Abstract

Please replace the abstract on page 32 with the following amended abstract.

A method for designing a metal ion for use in a MD molecular dynamics simulation can include the steps of building a metal ion molecule having a center atom and a dummy atom, assigning a van der Waals radius to the center atom, and assigning a charge to the dummy atom. A metal ion molecule may have. T[t]he center atom covalently linked to one or more dummy atoms resulting in the metal ion molecule having a polyhedron geometry. New force field parameters may be used in methods for designing metal ions for use in MD molecular dynamics simulations.